



Der Kurier

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Nathaniel Seidel's 1755 Travel Diary

Translation by John T. Humphrey, CGSM

The Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania has an extraordinary collection of original records that includes an extensive collection of travel diaries and journals maintained by Moravian missionaries, ministers and church members.

The travel diaries and journals can reveal some interesting and useful insights into life as it was lived by our eighteenth-century ancestors. Nathaniel Seidel's 1755 Travel Diary furnishes insights into the uncertainty of ocean travel and reveals many unforeseen obstacles encountered along the way.

Nathaniel Seidel was born on 2 October 1718 in Lauban, Silesia. As a young man he learned the trade of weaving cloth. He joined the Moravian Church at Herrnhut in Saxony in 1739 and traveled to Pennsylvania in 1742 on the snow Catharine. He was an itinerant missionary among Native Americans; in 1753 he was sent on an official visit to the Danish West Indies. He was consecrated bishop of the church in Herrnhut, Saxony on 12 May 1758; he died in Bethlehem on 17 May 1782.

Nathaniel Seidel did not complete the trip alone; he had two traveling companions. One of his companions was Abraham Bömper who was born on 22 March 1705 in Herborn, in the Lahn-Dill District, Hesse; at the age of 12 he was apprenticed to a silversmith in Wetzlar. His parents and several siblings emigrated to New York and settled in Manhattan about 1725 where his father became a merchant. Abraham was sent with his brother Philip Jacob Bömper to Surinam where they managed their father's export business. Bömper returned to New York in 1744 and joined the Moravian Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania in 1748. He died on 24 February 1793 and was buried in the Moravian Cemetery in Bethlehem.

Johann Ludwig Hübner was Seidel's third traveling companion; he was born on 10 December 1717 in Rommelshausen, Neckarkreis Württemberg; he immigrated in September 1739 on the Friendship and joined the Moravian Church in Bethlehem in 1743. He served as an assistant missionary among the Indians and died in Bethlehem on 23 September 1796.

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MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

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<http://www.magsgen.com/>

Our mission: To stimulate and facilitate research on Germanic genealogy and heritage in the mid-Atlantic region

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS) is a non-profit genealogical society founded 10 July 1982. Annual dues are only \$15 (individual) or \$20 (family). Membership is open to all interested persons without regard to place of residence, nationality, or ethnicity. Benefits of membership include:

- **Spring and Fall Meetings** featuring expert speakers
- **Quarterly journal, *Der Kurier***
- **MAGS Lending Library**
- **Ahnentafels** published in *Der Kurier*
- **Queries**

A membership application appears on the back cover of *Der Kurier*.

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Submissions to *Der Kurier*. Articles concerning Germanic genealogy and heritage in the Mid-Atlantic region are welcome, as are "Letters to the Editor." Research articles should document conclusions with appropriate citation of primary sources.

MAGS reserves the right to edit submissions for length and style. Any material published becomes the property of MAGS. Deadline for submissions: the first of January, April, July and October. Submit to: James M. Beidler, *Der Kurier* Editor, MAGS, PO Box 334, Glenn Dale, MD 20769-0334.. E-mail: james@beidler.us

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Diane Kuster

How to access MAGS web 'Members Only'

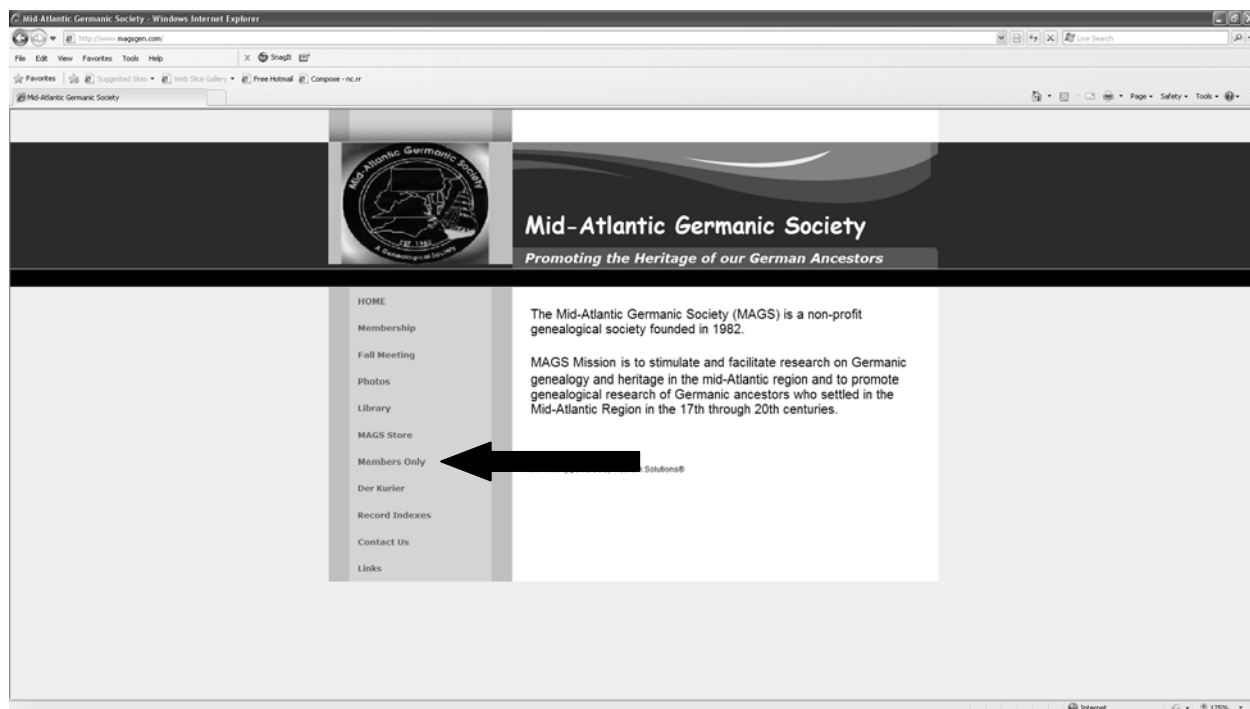
The MAGS board has had many discussions on how to give our membership more benefits and one item that has always come up is our website and a member's only area. Recently, at our Spring 2012 meeting, I had the great pleasure to announce that the member's only area is now a reality.

Unfortunately, I was not able to put a quick presentation together to show members who attended the meeting on how to access this area but since I made the announcement I knew I needed to get this information to you, so here it is!

Accessing the site is easy, whether you're sitting at home having your coffee or doing research somewhere in the United States or abroad! All you need is access to a computer that has Internet capability.

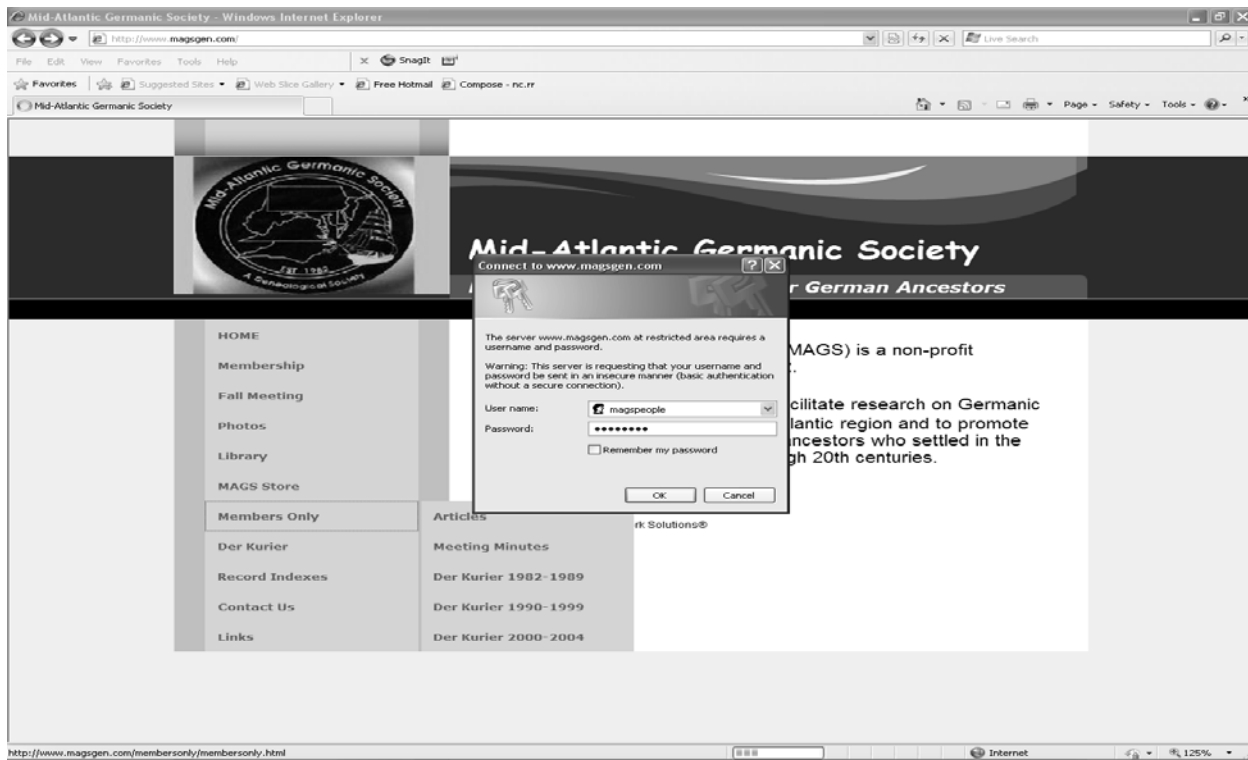
Open the browser and on the address line type in www.magsgen.com and press the enter key. Hint...you can type magsgen and then press the Ctrl and Enter keys at the same time and this will fill in the www and the .com piece for you! Second hint...when the page loads to your screen, save it to your Favorites, if you're on your personal computer, so you don't have to constantly type it in. Of course you can save it to Favorites on other computers as a form of advertising for our society!

Our website has the link to the Members Only area on the left-hand side of the page. Click the link that is next to the arrow in the screen shot below:



You can also run your mouse over the Members Only link and this will give you a list of the items currently available to you. You can then click the folder you want to access. Either way when you click the Members Only link you are presented with a pop-up window asking for your User name and Password. The User name is magpeople and is all in lowercase.

The password will be emailed to you so please ensure that the email you wish to use for MAGS information is on file with our Membership Chairman Gunter Schanzenbacher. Gunter can be contacted at membership@magsgen.com. Also, please add membership@magsgen.com and president@magsgen.com to your address books so it doesn't look like we are sending you spam.



As shown in the screen shot above, we have folders for Articles, which is currently under construction; Meeting Minutes, which we will be adding to in the very near future; Der Kurier for 1982 thru 1989; Der Kurier for 1990 thru 1999; and Der Kurier for 2000 thru 2004. All of these are currently in their respective folders. The rest will be online by the time you have read this article or shortly thereafter.

If you click just the Members Only link to start you are taken directly to the Members Only main page. On this page will be the most recent copy of our Der Kurier, which you can also download. The step from here are:

- To navigate to any of the other newsletters just run your mouse over the Members Only link and it will expand and then click the section you wish to access.
- To access the newsletters, articles or meeting minutes, click on of the links.
- To open a Der Kurier or any other item in the Members Only area, click the one you wish to open. The file will open in another window and if you have pop-up blocker running a yellow bar will appear above the page. Click anywhere in the yellow area and select the option to temporarily allow pop-ups or select the option to always allow pop-ups from the MAGS website. After you add the site or temporarily allow pop-ups you will then need to select the file you wish to open again.
- The file you select will open. Our PDF's are searchable and you may also download the PDF to your computer!
- Once you are finished using the Members Only area you can close your browser. You do not have to log out of this area.

The Member's Only area of our website is easy to access and use and you can do so even if you don't have a computer in your home. All you need is an email address, which you can get for free from Google Mail, Hot Mail or Yahoo.

You can access the Internet for free from a public library and check your email from there.

Several members of our board are working on different indexing projects and most of these will be available to the public. You do not need to access the Members Only area to utilize these. Currently we have the Geissenhaner Church Record Indexes on our site. These indexes were compiled by board member Bob Greiner. They are searchable and include baptisms, confirmations and marriages with more to be added.

Check back periodically for more exciting additions! If you know of an article or index that you would like to see one included please do not hesitate to contact me at president@magsgen.com or call me at 252-281-5000 with your suggestions.

New church record index on MAGS website

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS), in cooperation with the New-York Historical Society (NYHS), recently posted a new collection of New York City church record indexes to its web site.

The pastoral records of Rev. Frederick W. Geissenhainer Jr. are held at the Patricia D. Klingenstein Library of the NYHS. The volumes document his pastoral acts for two German Lutheran churches between 1827 and 1879.

This was a period of escalating German immigration into New York City. While some of these immigrants remained in the city, many of them eventually migrated to other parts of the United States.

This collection is a valuable new source of information for people whose German ancestors arrived in the mid-1800s.

Marriage, baptism, and confirmation records from 1827 to 1841 have been indexed. The MAGS web site (www.magsgen.com/recordindexes.html) describes the collection and contains forms to search the indexes by name and date.

Once an entry of interest is found you can contact the NYHS to obtain a copy of the entry.

The web site also contains other items of interest that were transcribed from the church records. The records for the remaining years are being indexed and will be added to the database as they become available.

Bob Greiner wrote an article about his discovery of this unique genealogy source in the March 2006 issue of *Der Kurier*.

His presentation at our fall conference in October 2011 described the history of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New York City. He also discussed the lives of Rev. Geissenhainer and his father of the same name, as well as the content of the records available at the NYHS.

The publication of these record indexes on our web site is just the beginning of a new venture for MAGS. Several members are already working to transcribe and index a variety of records found in the National Archives.

As these become available they will be added to the web site. If you would like to assist with the continuing transcription of the church records or any of the other projects, please contact Bob Greiner (rcgrein@comcast.net) or Diane Kuster (president@magsgen.com).

Travel from Bethlehem, PA, to South America

(Continued on Front Page)

The travel journal used for this translation was found on a microfilmed copy of the "Bethlehem Diary" located at the Pennsylvania State Archives in Harrisburg.

The travel journal was recorded in the Diary at the end of calendar year 1755. It furnishes interesting insights into 18th-century travel and life on the northern coast of South America. The journal is being published here with the permission of the Moravian Archives, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

**Travel Diary of Brother Nathanael [Seidel]
with his two traveling companions Brother
Abraham Bömper and
Ludwig Hübner from Bethlehem to Barbice
and Suriname from 9 April until 19 November
1755.**

9 April 1755

We traveled on our blessed trip from the community in Bethlehem in the company of Brother and Sister Thomas. I took the route with Brother Christian Powel and Gottlieb by way of Christian Spring, Gnadenthal and Nazareth. In the evening we came to Easton.

10 April 1755

I traveled further in the company of Brother John Bonns.

11 April 1755

My 2 traveling companions Abraham Bömper and Ludwig Hübner as well as Brother Christian Heinrich [and I] came by way of Brunswick, [New Jersey]. By evening [we were] with our Brethren in New York.

12 April 1755

Still lucky, after our arrival in New York, we inquired immediately about the opportunity to travel to Rhode Island and we found a sailing vessel that was going to leave in several days. We made the decision to go with them.

18 April 1755

Our 13 Brethren gathered together before our imminent journey for a particular nourishment,

communion, according to today's watchword which was "We hunger for the Bread, that comes from Heaven."

19 April 1755

Brother Christian Heinrich and his company came on board and we sailed for Rhode Island.

20 April 1755

We had a beautiful and pleasant trip; it took was 26 hours to get to New Port harbor. When we arrived Brother Matheus Reiz obtained lodging for us. It was a great joy for us as all of our friends heard that Brethren from Bethlehem would be coming. Soon, we inquired about the opportunity [to travel] to Barbice but we heard that there were no vessels going there. After that I went with Br. Hübner to Bristol from where ships go to Barbice all year long, but currently there were none. Then we went to Providence and did not find any.

1 May 1755

Brother Abraham Bömper and Ludwig Hübner even went to new London and various other seaports.

6 May 1755

They came back and had not found anything for us, but we were very pleased to see several of our friends and our Brethren in New London again. Finally we heard of a vessel in New Greenwich¹ that would go to Barbados in several days so if we went with them we would have the opportunity to go to Barbice and Ihakep from there.² In the meanwhile we spent our time in New Port

¹ "*New Grunwitsch*" or New Greenwich is East Greenwich, Rhode Island located on Greenwich Bay.

² Barbice is the name of a river in British Guyana. During the eighteenth-century Barbice referred not only to the river but also to the area around the river. Ihakep is more problematic. Attempts to locate Ihakep have so far proven unsuccessful. The description of Ihakep in this travel journal suggests it was a river located west of Barbice. Thus Ihakep may be an older name, perhaps Indian, that refers to the Demeraro River where Moravian missionaries had established a settlement.

bringing joy and blessings to our friends with our visit.

17 May 1755

We went on board and towards evening we were under sail but the winds were against us and we did not travel very far from land.

18 May 1755

Pentecost [Sunday] in the morning we had good wind on the sea. Today especially, our hearts were with the community at sea and with our dear mother church and her poor children. Today Brother Bömper became a little see sick.

20 May 1755

We experienced the special protection of our Lord on our ship. Our galley/kitchen began to burn and the flames shot from both [????] so high in the [????]. It was seen as being very dangerous because we had horses and other cattle and a lot of hay and feed on the deck. The men reacted in time to rectify the danger without damage.

22 May 1755

We encountered contrary winds that continued up to the 3rd of June, because of the wind we were pushed towards the east; the winds were better during the night

8 June 1755

We reached nice pleasant weather and the heights of Bermuda where the trade winds begin, but they were weak.

16 June 1755

We came under the tropics where the day was entirely calm, and we experienced high heat; during the night the trade winds started, but they were still weak. Brother Bömper was over his sea sickness and we were all well and remembering often our Brothers and Sisters in the congregation and wished we had a received a letter from our beloved Bethlehem.

21 June 1755

We reached the latitude of Barbados the wind off of the land [island] pushed us forward but we discovered that we had come to the east [of the

island] and it took 4 days traveling into the wind to go west.

24 June 1755

In the morning we saw Barbados in front of us. Towards 11 AM we anchored in Carl Island Port near Bricktown. Our trip from Rhode Island to here took 38 days but the Lord gave us a beautiful and happy trip. For that we had heartfelt thanks. Today Brother Bömper went off and inquired about another boat; a boat was dispatched to Barbice three days ago and one would not go there for another month. Because we must remain in Barbados for a while, we spoke with our captain that we needed to lodge an additional 8 to 10 days on his vessel, which he was willing to do. We also discovered today that it would be good to remain on our ship, because everyone, who resides on land for a couple of days and then wants to leave must furnish authorities with his name and he cannot leave without posting a bond.

25 June 1755

We visited an older gentleman by the name of Charles Bolton who was an acquaintance of Brother Bömper in Suriname who took a liking to us and offered the possibility of his service. He also spoke of a vessel that would leave for Ihakep in several days, from where we would have an opportunity to get to Barbice and that he had a plantation there where we could lodge until we found the opportunity to go to Barbice, that he also owned a large boat that has already gone several times to Barbice, that this would serve in the event we could not find another opportunity to get to Barbice. We resolved to use this opportunity and spoke with the captain of the aforementioned vessel to reach an agreement to go with him to get to Ihakep. Mr. Bolton, who was an old inhabitant of Barbados, was well aware of all of the local problems and told us a lot. He told us that the island is 30 English miles long and 13 miles wide; it has 136,000 Negroes and 24,000 white inhabitants. We took the time as we had the opportunity to see this land, which was very pleasant. We were acquainted with a Doctor Oksly's Negro named Herri, with whom we could talk about the Savior and his love towards the poor blacks. One could see and feel that it was very good to hear that and he said he would think about it. A pair of Negresses traveled with us in the town, they are Philadelphia Brethren, and we

said yes but we did not get the opportunity to talk further with them. It was, above all, very good to take the effort with the large number of Negroes that we saw there, that we could rightfully pray to the Savior that he could also on this island take the Blacks from their pain and there is an opportunity here to Evangelize. I believe one or a pair of Brothers could conduct their work here and become known to the Negroes, the opportunity to know them would show itself soon. We also visited Mr. Moor who had obtained up to now our letters from Bethlehem [that were going] to Barbice; he was very friendly towards us and he spoke of serving us again, as he had done up to now. Mr. Bolton gave us a letter [to take] to Ihakep for his director wherein he suggested he take care of us, as if he had come there himself and no payment was to be made.

4 July 1755

We moved from our Snow to the aforementioned Brigantine.³

10 July 1755

We left from Barbados under sail, as we left the harbor, our vessel was lodged firmly on a rock to the consternation of everyone on the ship. We were in real danger. They had to anchor the ship by placing a boat ahead of the ship so that bit by bit the anchor would move the ship. Luckily the tide came in gradually and finally the unfortunate [event] ended. Towards evening we lost sight of land and sailed on our course with good a wind. We had good beautiful weather.

16 July 1755

Early morning we found one of our passengers who was on deck last evening and well, lying dead in the hold; he was lowered into the sea shortly after he was found. We had a good wind, but we did not move forward much because of a strong current running against us.

19 July 1755

We see land, we were right at the mouth of the Barbice River but our boat to Ihakep could not be

tied so we could not go there, we also had to return towards the west.

21 July 1755

To Ihakep before anchoring. Brother Abraham Bömper went with our pass to the Governor who was friendly and undemanding.⁴

22 July 1755

We went with our vessel way up another river and we came to Mr. Bolton's plantation. We got off and turned our letter from Mr. Bolton over to his director, who [treated us] with much love and modesty. We lodged there and it was like being at home. We inquired about the opportunities of going to Barbice, we heard that a pair of vessels would go there but not very soon. Our host was a very orderly and humble man and the wait together was enjoyable. We left it completely to the Lord to bring us to Barbice. Our host gave us several opportunities with his boat to go out on the river to see and indulge a lot of the state. The Ihakep River is one of the largest in this region, one of the widest, many Indians go up [river] and live on the land. It belongs to a company from Iceland and [settlement] began with some English people from Barbados who became the owners. We had the joy and pleasure to see the first of our Barbician Indian Brethren who visited their friends in this area. They landed with their boat at the plantation where we are; they did not want anything from us. As we heard that they were going to Barbice, we asked if they knew Brother Schuman? They were very friendly, smiled and answered: [one three letter word] We could no longer talk with them but the Brethren from Bethlehem could do so much [here]. Our host wondered excessively about the joy of the Indians and was not certain what he was supposed to make of it. We would have gladly gone in their boat but it was so overloaded that it was not possible. We also knew several people in Ihakep who offered their services. Our host had also gladly given his boat as Mr. Bolton had said; but it was not in condition to travel on the sea without a lot of work. We remained totally quiet, we

³ Snow and Brigantine are referring to types of ships. Snows were used primarily for commerce; they had two masts and square sails. A Brigantine was also a sailing ship but was smaller. In addition to sails, the Brigantine carried oars.

⁴ The reference to a "Pass" which is German for passport suggests these three men were carrying a passport which during the eighteenth-century was highly unusual.

would yield it to the Lord and so after 11 days we got to Ihakep.

31 July 1755

During the night we heard that a vessel from Barbados was lying in Temmerai, that in the morning was thought to be going from there to Barbice; the captain of the boat was from Temmarary and came here with his boat and wanted to take us along. We gathered our things together right away and our dear host was very helpful and also gave us his boat to bring our things on the river and accompanied us, himself, over there where the Captain was staying, where we separated [where we said our good byes]. A conscientious man who lived on the river, Captain Lerich, loaned us his boat with two Negroes and a white man who could bring the vessel back.

1 August 1755

We left from Ihakep. We came with the tide to the mouth of the river where we had to wait for the high tide/ flow of water;⁵ we went on land at the fire station [guard house]⁶ where we found the commander from Temmerai who was on his return trip from Ihakep awaiting the tide. Towards 12 PM we left from there and were “tempest tossed” into the sea from the strong current, it took a lot of work to get to land.

2 August 1755

Before noon we came to the River from Temeray where the vessel laid and soon we were on board and under sail. Now we had to go against the wind and current. There is a special coast around here where one can see well from land 8 to 10 English

⁵ There is some question as to what Nathaniel Seidel was describing. The rainforest in South American produces an incredible amount of rain, most of which flows into the southern Atlantic or the Caribbean Sea. If the current or flow of water into the ocean was strong ships had to wait until the flow reversed with the tide before they could enter a harbor; conversely if the tide was coming in they frequently had to wait until the flow reversed.

⁶ Nathaniel Seidel used the term “*Brand Wache*” that translates literally to Fire Station; but the description that comes later in this travel journal of activities that took place at the “*Brand Wache*” suggest the “*Brand Wache*” was something akin to a guard house where they may have “fired” a cannon/s to announce the arrival of ships, hence the use of the word fire.

miles and sometimes hardly 6 or 7 feet of water at low tide but it still soaks a lot of ground. We had quite favorable winds.

3 August 1755

We had to throw the anchor into the sea because the current was so strong against us, until we got the tide again, we had to remain there at anchor; it [the anchor] remained stuck there in the mud because the rope tore and we had to leave it.

5 August 1755

We came to Barbice, at the mouth [of the river] we had to anchor at the guard house. We were rightfully happy that the dear Savior had brought us so far and it pleased us that we would soon see our Brethren in Pilgerhut. There was even a Dutch Captain at the guard house with his boat who knew that we were three Brothers, and told us that several months earlier he brought 3 Brothers from Holland here namely our Brothers Bambey, Döeffler and Schmidt. He offered to take us himself to the Fort and I and Brother Bömper went with him. Brother Ludwig Hübner remained with our things as we could not take them.

6 August 1755

Towards evening we came out of the Fort. We left right away to report to the Governor who asked that we come that evening. He had already heard through the Captain that we were Brethren.

He asked immediately with a very penetrating “Physiognomie” assessment of our character: from where have we come? Answer New York. Who are we? Answer we are Brethren. What do we want here? Answer to visit our Brothers here and then go from here to Suriname. He said, that it took effort to come this way to visit, he does not want to have so many of these people [Brethren] in his colony. He inquired than about our [? Path ?] and when he saw the same then he said I can [???] you well no longer; we are supposed to arrange that we do not stay too long. We told him that we would conform according to the opportunity and that we would get to Suriname and so we left.

We remained, because it was already evening, this night in the fort with one of our acquaintances Peter Schweizer with whom we were very welcome and he had suggestions for us that we

would allow us to complete the journey to our Brethren.

7 August 1755

We went in a small “Coriar” on the way up the river, [we] visited Von Willer because he was so totally happy to see us. We were there several hours. We got off [our boat] and went over land through a Savannah up to the creek Warronie where our Brethren live, we borrowed a “Coriar,” and after several hours up the creek we came to our Brethren at Pilgerhut at 7 in the evening. We arrived in their midst before they realized we were coming. Brother Bambey knew me right away and so it was emotional; we brought joy late into the evening and both sides were grateful that the word of the Savior to our arrival was: I have sent you an end [? “Erndt” ?], that has cost you no trouble. You have made everything easy for us in our Pilgrim days. We experienced equally, with our arrival, great joy that the communion of the congregation on the 9th of August, as was explained to us the day after tomorrow, which [will] make us comrades with them and makes our entrance and stopover with them meaningful.⁷

We had a blessed four week stay with our dear brown and white Brothers and Sisters and we have a lot to do; [they] have [made] us very pleased and [we are] grateful to the Lord for the great work that he has for us in this part of South America for the Indian Nation. It is a very large and wide field; our dear brother Schuman has supported the Lord with the large work that he has in hand.

What else has taken place during these four weeks is in the Pilgerhut diary.

The conclusion of the Travel Diary translation will be published in the September issue of Der Kurier.

⁷ A entry in the *Bethlehem Diary* titled “The Latest News from Suriname and Barbice” found on page 76/234, included details related to this trip not contained in the travel diary, for example, the notation there were 62 communicants present at the aforementioned communion held on 9 August.

Spring meeting and other updates

By Diane M. Kuster

We are beginning 2012 with great news regarding our website and the Members Only area, the addition of a wonderful, searchable database, our efforts to boost our membership and the success of our Spring meeting.

For a long time now, the MAGS board has had many discussions regarding our website and a Members Only area. That area is now a reality and it currently holds our Der Kuriers beginning with the very issue from September 1982 up to and including all of 2004. Our webmaster, Diane Giannini, is working to post the rest of the Der Kuriers in this area. In this issue you will find an article describing how to log into the Members Only area and how to navigate it as well. You may download the Der Kuriers and best of all the PDFs are fully searchable! As each Der Kurier is published it too will be added to the Members Only section. You will be able to download it before you get it in your mailbox so keep checking back for it!

We will also start putting the meeting minutes from our Spring and Fall meetings into the Members Only section of the website. In addition to the Der Kuriers and meeting minutes we are hoping to add exclusive articles and tips not found in Der Kurier along with images of maps and pictures.

We are finding a lot of great information deep in the bowels of our National Archives, which will help us to become “THE” German genealogical society to turn to!

We now have our first searchable database on our website! In previous Der Kuriers our treasurer Bob Greiner has written about the

Geissenhainer Church Records. Bob has been compiling indexes of baptisms, confirmations and marriages that are held in the collection of the New York Historical Society and with their permission we are hosting this database on our website.

It is fully searchable so if you have German ancestors who came to and settled within New York City from 1827 to approximately the 1860's, don't hesitate to avail yourself of this valuable resource. The Geissenhainer indexes are available to members and non-members alike so you don't have to log into the Members Only area.

Our membership is an important, if not the most important part, of our society and maintaining and growing our membership is a personal goal of mine.

To accomplish this goal I've asked for help in compiling lists of all genealogical and historical societies in every state. Due to the efforts of several volunteers we have completed lists for New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland, Rhode Island and North and South Carolina.

We've also added to Pennsylvania and New York. Volunteers for this undertaking are Richard Buss, George Martel, Bernard Graf, Gary Frick, Debra Hoffman and Carol Carman. Many thanks for their assistance in this undertaking.

If you have a sometime and wish to help please contact me at president@magsgen.com. Based on the efforts of our volunteers our Fall meeting announcement and membership brochures were mailed to societies in each of the states listed above. Time will tell if our efforts are succeeding.

Our Spring meeting, held on March 31, was a resounding success on both the speaker level and attendee level. We featured Warren Bittner from Salt Lake City and Constance Potter from the National Archives. Each of our speakers was well received by our attendees. Ms. Potter gave us a leg up on the 1940 Census, which was due to be released a few days after our meeting. I

think it was our membership that crashed the server the day of the release!

Mr. Bittner carried the majority of the day and he spoke about German maps and territories plus doing research in German archives. Our attendees gathered a lot of useful information from all of the sessions. A very special thank you to Susan Scheerer for manning checkin and to our board for a successful meeting.

Our Fall meeting this year will be on Saturday, October 13th at the Best Western Hotel in Westminster, Maryland. We will have Ann Morrison presenting a session on it's never too late to learn history. Ms. Morrison is responsible for the film *Millions Cried...No One Listened*, which is available on DVD.

MAGS board members John Humphrey and Susannah Brooks will present one session each and then host a third session together.

This third session is a repeat of a very popular session held many years ago and will follow the same format as that. It will be a question and answer session so come armed with your questions regarding your research and how to solve any problems you're having.

If you are planning on attending the meeting and have questions please send them in with your registration or email them to corresponding@magsgen.com. This will give John and Susannah the opportunity to compile answers beforehand and yes, you may continue to ask more at the meeting.

Lastly, member Sue Fischer pointed out an error in the directions that I have included in the Fall meeting flyer. Once you turn left onto WMC Drive, the hotel is on the left. Please note that if you are planning to attend.

I will update the flyer before it is inserted into the *Der Kurier*. Remember, if you have access to the Internet use Google Maps or another map program to plan your driving directions. I hope to see many of you in Westminster and hopefully it will not snow this time!

FRAKTUR FORUM

By Corinne Earnest

Paul surname found in several Pennsylvania counties

Donna Varley asked about the surname PAUL on fraktur. She is looking for people chiefly from Dauphin, Schuylkill, and Northumberland Counties in Pennsylvania. She also mentioned Northampton County as a possibility. All locations listed here are in Pennsylvania. Also, personal names are spelled as they appear on the fraktur.

Valentin PAUL and his wife, Susanna, sponsored the baptism of Elisabeth HOWERDER [HOWERTER], daughter of Peter and Elisabeth (DIEHL) HOWERDER. Elisabeth HOWERDER was born about five o'clock in the morning on March 25, 1811 in Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County. She was baptized on April 2, presumably in 1811, by Pastor ADAMM. Elisabeth's Taufschein (birth and baptism certificate) is in a private collection. Translations and/or transcriptions of local fraktur at the Northumberland County Historical Society in Sunbury say that Vallentin PAUL and Saara KNER[R], both single, sponsored the baptism of Saara, daughter of Anderes [Andreas] and Maria (HARDMANN) KNER. Saara KNER was born July 18, 1822 in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County. She was baptized July 27, 1822 by Hardmann KNEBEL. The current location is unknown of a Taufschein made for Daniel KNERR, son of Isaac and Catharina (SHÄFER) KNERR. Daniel KNERR was born in Upper Mahanoy Township on October 6, 1822. He was baptized by Pastor KNEBEL, but no date of baptism was given. The sponsors were Valentin PAUL and M. SCHÄFER.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Daniel MERTZ, son of Johann and Sara (PAUL) MERTZ. Daniel MERTZ was born August 13, 1826 in Brunswick Township, Schuylkill County. He was baptized October 14,

1826 by Pastor KROLL. The parents sponsored Daniel's baptism.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Mary Elizabeth PAUL, daughter of William PAUL Jr. and his wife, Susan (maiden name not given). Mary Elizabeth PAUL was born in Upper Paxton Township, Dauphin County on November 10, 1883. She was baptized December 30, 1883 by J.B. KERSCHNER, Reformed. Mary Elizabeth's parents sponsored her baptism.

Mary Elizabeth PAUL's confirmation and marriage record are in the same collection. According to the confirmation certificate, Mary Elizabeth was confirmed at Zion Reformed Church in Rife [Dauphin County] on April 29, 1900. She was confirmed by S.H. EISENBERG. The marriage record says Mary Elizabeth married Darien Eugene RAMBERGER on January 15, 1907 in Berrysburg [Dauphin County]. The RAMBERGERS were married by J.S. RENNINGER.

A certificate in the same collection gives information about Darien Eugene. He was the son of Balthaser and Hanna ROMBERGER. Darien Eugene was born May 22, 1880 in Washington Township, Dauphin County, and baptized July 31, 1880 by R.S. WAGNER, Lutheran. Darien Eugene's parents sponsored his baptism.

Related to the above is a Taufschein made for Ralph Edgar ROMBERGER, son of Darien and Mary E. (PAUL) ROMBERGER. Ralph Edgar was born November 6, 1923 in Elizabethtown [Dauphin County]. He was baptized in Millersburg on November 17, 1923 by Ralph E. STARR. The sponsors at the baptism were Ralph Edgar's parents.

According to another certificate in a private collection, Abraham ERDMAN and Sarah PAUL sponsored the baptism of Sarah

SCHNEIDER. Sarah's parents were Jacob SCHNEIDER and his wife Sarah, daughter of Jacob THOMAS. Sarah SCHNEIDER was born November 29, 1839 in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County. She was baptized on January 5, 1840 by Isaak STÜHLE [STIEHLY].

A Taufschein in a private collection lists Mary Alice PAUL as the only sponsor at the baptism of William Henry HORNBERGER, son of Samuel and Lydia HORNBERGER. William Henry HORNBERGER was born July 29, 1880 in Barry Township [Schuylkill County], and baptized by T. Asher HESS on December 2, 1880.

In the fourth volume of The Printed Birth and Baptismal Certificates of the German Americans, Klaus Stopp pictured a Taufschein made for Emente PAUL, daughter of John B. and Maria (HABERACKER) PAUL. Emente PAUL was born January 16, 1844 in Lower Mahantango [now Hubley] Township, Schuylkill County. She was baptized April 14, 1844 by [Rudolph] DÜNGER. The sponsors at Emente's baptism were Johannes and Magdalena MORLÄND. An added note says Emente died May 24, 1853.

Stopp listed data from a Taufschein related to the above. It was made for Emente's younger brother, Immanuel. Immanuel PAUL was born in Lower Mahantango Township on May 27, 1849. He was baptized on July 15, 1849, but no other information concerning Immanuel's baptism is available.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Elisabetha PAUL, daughter of Friederich and Anna Maria (BAUER) PAUL. Elisabetha was born April 14, 1776 in Allentown, Northampton [now Lehigh] County. She was baptized, but no information concerning baptism was recorded other than the names of the sponsors. They were Valentin TENT and Elisabeth ROGEL.

The current location is unknown of a carelessly penned Taufschein made for Marey Louilla, daughter of Wilson and Catharine PAUL. Marey Louilla was born in Hubley Township, Schuylkill County on June 22, 1877. She was baptized by Pastor WAGENER on July

29, 1877. The sponsors at Marey Louilla's baptism were John D. and Dewilla (?) HEPLER.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Isaac RAMBERGER, son of Adam and Catrina (PAUL) RAMBERGER. Isaac was born June 26, 1824 in Lykens Township, Dauphin County. He was baptized in October 1824 by Pastor GERHARD. The only sponsor at Isaac RAMBERGER's baptism was Isaac PAULL.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Irwin Henry GANGLOFF, son of George and Hannah (PAUL) GANGLOFF. Irwin Henry was born July 7, 1857 in West Brunswick Township, Schuylkill County. He was baptized in Schuylkill Haven on October 15, 1887 [sic] by Edwin H. SMOLL, Lutheran.

A Taufschein in a private collection was made for Joseph FAUST, son of Jonas and Susanna (PAUL) FAUST. Joseph was born May 11, 1811 in Hanover Township, Northampton County. He was baptized on July 27, 1811 by Pastor MENSING. Joseph's parents sponsored his baptism.

The current location is unknown of a Taufschein made for Catharine PAUL, who was born on October 24, 1838 in Jefferson Township, Dauphin County. Catharine PAUL was the daughter of John PAUL and his wife Catharine, whose father was John BOWERMAN. Catharine PAUL was baptized by Isaac GERHART, but no date of baptism was noted on her certificate. The parents sponsored Catharine's baptism.

A Taufschein in a private collection says that Georg PAUL and Maria ZERFINK sponsored the baptism of Lydia HAAS, daughter of Georg and Elisabeth (MÜLLER) HAAS. Lydia HAAS was born February 19, 1815 in Upper Mahanoy Township, Northumberland County. She was baptized April 12, 1815 by Pastor REÝLÝ.

If you have names you want me to research on fraktur, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Corinne Earnest, PO Box 1132, Clayton DE 19938. There is no charge for members of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society. However, I receive many requests, so please be patient for a reply.

1835 printed pension report filled with information

By Kenneth W. Heger

I confess. I have a weakness for old, bound volumes. I like the way they look. I enjoy turning their yellowed pages to discover new information. If that describes you, the War Department's 1835 report on the Pension Establishment of the United States is a three volume set you need to examine.

In mid-1834 the United States Senate decided a comprehensive list of pensioners would serve the public interest, if only to verify and document that those veterans who had earned pensions were receiving them. Accordingly, in June of that year the Senate called on the Secretary of War to work with the Treasury Department to create such a list. The report was to include the names of all pensioners currently and formerly on the rolls, as well as the amount of money paid out in pensions to individuals, with the total amount of payments broken out by state or territory. (See Illustration 1 for this list.) Congress mandated that the report was to be organized by state or territory and then by county. After completion, the War Department was to print copies of the report and deliver those copies to the Senate and each state. By mid-1835 the project was complete.

BASIC INFORMATION

The Report carries a long and cumbersome title very typical of the early nineteenth century, Report from the Secretary of War, in Obedience to the Resolutions of the Senate of the 5th and 30th of June, 1834, and the 3rd of March 1835, In Relation to the Pension Establishment of the United States. Regardless of its ostentatious title, the Report puts a great deal of information at our finger tips. Arranged in the form of a series of tables, the Report

contains the following categories for each veteran: Name; Rank; Annual Payment; Amount Received to Date; Description of Service; When Placed on the Roll; When Pension Began; Age; Laws Under Which They Were Formerly Inscribed on the Pension Rolls and Remarks. While the names of some of these categories are clear, three warrant special attention. (See Illustrations 2 and 3 for examples of the report.)

Rank

This category includes information on veterans in the army, navy, militia, and some quasi-military units. Many ranks are easily identifiable. These include private, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain. The Report identifies other men as having been dragoons, paymasters, surgeons, and musicians. The latter category often contained more detailed information classifying the soldier as having been a drummer or fifer. "Indian spies" received a pension for their service spying against hostile Native Americans.

Description of Service

This oddly titled category contains the name of the unit in which the pensioner served. The Senate's instructions were that the information on units should come from four broad categories:

- The Regular Army
- State Troops, Militia, and Volunteers
- The Navy
- Indian Spies

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oners on the rolls in the Treasury Office be printed and distributed, as heretofore ordered in regard to those in the War Office, with the addition of the names of the Agents.”

I now enclose a copy of the regulations adopted by this Department relating to the proof necessary to entitle claimants to the benefit of the act of June 7, 1832.”

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,
 J. L. EDWARDS, *Commissioner of Pensions.*

WALTER LOWRIE, Esq., *Secretary of the Senate.*

Statement exhibiting the total amount paid in each State to U. States Pensioners, and the aggregate sum disbursed on account of Pensions: prepared in obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the U. States of the 5th June, 1834.

Maine, - - -	\$2,215,208 36
New Hampshire, - - -	1,779,878 90
Massachusetts, - - -	3,285,260 96
Connecticut, - - -	2,098,444 97
Rhode Island, - - -	567,077 96
Vermont, - - -	1,893,583 66
New York, - - -	6,299,373 59
New Jersey, - - -	829,774 85
Pennsylvania, - - -	2,050,047 39
Delaware, - - -	92,527 31
Maryland, - - -	590,759 90
Virginia, - - -	1,566,557 98
North Carolina, - - -	616,474 46
South Carolina, - - -	298,238 07
Georgia, - - -	201,639 19
Kentucky, - - -	1,191,490 53
Tennessee, - - -	703,923 79
Ohio, - - -	1,459,017 82
Indiana, - - -	398,698 72
Louisiana, - - -	33,563 90
Mississippi, - - -	28,474 49
Michigan Territory, - - -	89,919 94
Illinois, - - -	114,034 18
Alabama, - - -	105,888 78
Missouri, - - -	97,641 28
Arkansas Territory, - - -	3,846 98
Florida Territory, - - -	8,464 92
District of Columbia, - - -	173,624 98
Without the limits of the U. States	2,449 59
Aggregate,	\$28,795,887 45

J. L. EDWARDS, *Commissioner of Pensions.*

WAR DEPARTMENT:
Pension Office, October 12, 1835.

Illustration 1 – "Total Amount of Money Paid Out in Pensions at the Publication of the 1835 Report" 1835 Report Vol. I, p. 7.

Statement, &c. of Franklin county—Continued.

NAMES.	Rank.	Annual allowance.	Sums received.	Description of service.	When placed on the pension roll.	Commencement of pension.	Agcs.	Laws under which they were formerly inscribed on the pension roll; and remarks.
John Martin	Private	96 00	207 69	Armand's corps	Ap'l 17, 1819	Ap'l 28, 1818	80	Died June 13, 1824. Dropped from the roll under act May 1, 1820. Restored April 28, 1823.
John McCarr	do	96 00	320 80	Penn. cont'l line	June 21, 1819	May 2, 1818	90	
Thomas Murray	do	96 00	116 38	do do	July 17, 1819	Dec. 19, 1818	80	
John Meyer	do	96 00	247 06	Pulaski's legion	Feb. 15, 1826	Feb. 8, 1826	79	Died September 6, 1823.
John Nicholson	Sergeant	96 00	184 23	Penn. cont'l line	Apr. 4, 1818	April 4, 1818	79	
Philip Nagel	Private	96 00	1,505 03	do do	Nov. 28, 1822	July 1, 1818	74	
Richard Oldham	do	96 00	300 05	Virginia do	July 2, 1821	June 8, 1818	63	Died July 23, 1821.
Samuel Pollard	do	96 00	417 06	Cong. regiment.	Nov. 25, 1818	May 1, 1818	82	
Henry Penningsen	do	96 00	173 93	Penn. cont'l line	Apr. 27, 1819	May 13, 1818	60	Dropped from the roll under act May 1, 1820.
John Rowan	do	96 00	463 20	do do	Feb. 4, 1819	April 4, 1818	60	Died January 31, 1823.
George Runyan	do	96 00	1,481 29	do do	May 12, 1819	Sept. 30, 1818	74	
Philip Roemer	do	96 00	544 02	do do	Oct. 13, 1825	Sep. 27, 1825	75	Died May 27, 1831.
George Stuart	do	96 00	473 18	do do	Feb. 11, 1820	July 15, 1818	68	Died June 18, 1823.
Francis Shover	do	96 00	1,514 06	do do	Nov. 13, 1818	May 28, 1818	83	
Jacob Shirk	do	96 00	9 54	Housegger's G. reg.	Jan. 21, 1826	Jan. 16, 1826	67	Died February 19, 1826.
Nicholas Salehammer	do	96 00	395 12	Penn. cont'l line	Dec. 27, 1821	June 24, 1818	82	
Hugh Stewart	do	96 00	95 74	do do	Mar. 22, 1822	Jan. 22, 1822	74	Died January 20, 1823.
Jacob Thrush	do	96 00	1,041 83	do do	May 26, 1823	Apr. 28, 1823	81	
Daniel Welker	do	96 00	562 86	do do	Jan. 17, 1820	Apr. 28, 1818	72	Died March 8, 1824.
George Wagoner	do	96 00	947 95	N. Jersey do	Ap'l 27, 1824	Apr. 20, 1824	69	

Illustration 2 -- "Example of Pension Roll. Franklin County, PA" 1835 Report, Pennsylvania Roll, Vol. II, p. 92.

Statement, &c. of Baltimore county—Continued.

NAMES.	Rank.	Annual allowance.	Sums received.	Description of service.	When placed on the pension roll.	Commencement of pension.	Agcs.	Laws under which they were formerly inscribed on the pension roll; and remarks.
Samuel Dewees	Private	96 00	1508 80	Pennsylvania line	Jan. 9, 1819	June 17, 1818	71	
Isaac Dicks	do	96 00	401 33	Virginia line	June 8, 1819	May 5, 1818	75	Died July 24, 1823.
Jacob Dennis	do	96 00	54 65	Pennsylvania line	Oct. 12, 1819	Aug. 28, 1819	62	Died March 22, 1820.
Samuel Davis	Fifer	96 00	1343 47	Maryland line	Apr. 21, 1820	Mar. 7, 1820	66	
Daniel Day	Private	96 00	1423 88	do	Ap'l 29, 1818	Ap'l 28, 1818	90	
John Eisell	do	96 00	1221 59	do	June 30, 1818	Apr. 23, 1818	77	Suspended February 21, 1829. Restored commencing April 12, 1832.
Wolfgang Eitchberger	do	96 00	181 86	do	Sep. 22, 1818	Ap'l 13, 1818	73	Suspended under act May 1, 1820
William Eitchberger	do	96 00	-	do	Dec. 2, 1818	Ap'l 21, 1818	75	Died.
Thomas Evans	do	96 00	1432 00	do	Mar. 5, 1819	Oct. 2, 1818	80	Died September 2, 1833.
Thomas Elliott, 2d	do	96 00	1431 20	do	Sep. 8, 1819	Ap'l 8, 1819	75	
Emanuel Ebbs	do	96 00	271 20	do	Sep. 20, 1819	Aug. 4, 1819	93	Dropped from roll May 30, 1822.
John Franks	do	96 00	171 20	Connecticut line	June 30, 1818	May 23, 1818	73	Dropped act May 1, 1820.
Joseph Fisher	do	96 00	1486 13	Maryland line	June 30, 1818	Ap'l 23, 1818	85	Died October 15, 1833.
Philip Fletcher	do	96 00	451 46	do	June 11, 1819	do	68	Died January 5, 1823.
Joseph Ford	do	96 00	109 33	do	do	July 15, 1818	60	Died 1819.
Thomas Foster	do	96 00	577 06	Penn. line	Nov. 9, 1819	Sep. 1, 1819	77	Died.
Samuel H. Gatchell	Captain	240 00	330 65	Massachusetts line	Ap'l 29, 1818	Ap'l 18, 1818		Died.
Thomas Gadd	Private	96 00	37 33	Maryland line	May. 4, 1818	Ap'l 14, 1818	72	Died.
John Glazier	do	96 00	1122 40	Connecticut line	Nov. 11, 1818	Ap'l 13, 1818	62	Died December 22, 1829.
Lynch Gray	Dragoon	96 00	803 73	Penn. line	Feb. 12, 1822	May 13, 1818	67	Died September 27, 1826.
David Hopkins	Major	240 00	1429 33	Maryland line	Mar. 29, 1818	Mar. 24, 1818	80	Died March 7, 1824.
Jesse Hoshal	Private	96 00	139 65	do	Mar. 16, 1819	Sep. 25, 1818	76	Dropped under act May 1, 1820.
John M. Haupt	do	96 00	1523 33	do	Mar. 21, 1820	Ap'l 25, 1818	81	
Samuel Hudson	do	96 00	400 00	South Carolina line	Jan. 4, 1820	Jan. 4, 1820	64	Transferred from District Columbia, September 11, 1833, from September 4, 1830.
Thomas King	do	96 00	1278 40	Maryland line	Sep. 13, 1819	Dec. 8, 1818	78	Died March 31, 1832.
Nicholas Locke	Ser. & mar.	96 00	68 95	U. S. Navy	Ap'l 2, 1818	Ap'l 2, 1818	74	Died.

Illustration 3 -- "Example of Pension Roll. Baltimore County, MD. Note the variety of information contained in the right hand column. Also note how the volume's size caused the copy to roll up at the bottom because of the volume's deep gutter." 1835 Report, Maryland Roll, Vol. II, p. 30.

Statement of the Names, &c. of the Heirs of non-commissioned Officers, Privates, &c. who died in the United States' service, who obtained five years' half-pay in lieu of bounty land, under the second section of the act of April 16, 1816, and who resided in the State of New Jersey.

Names of the original claimants.	Rank.	Description of service.	Time of decease.	Names of the Heirs.	Annul allow- ance.	Sums re- ceived.	When placed on the roll.	Commence- ment of pension.	Ending of pension.
BERGEN COUNTY.									
John Brevoort -	Private	15th reg't inf.	Nov. 24, 1814	Samuel Brevoort -	48 00	240 00	Nov. 25, 1816	Feb. 17, 1815	Feb. 17, 1820
Albert Terheum	do	do	Jan. 15, 1815	Peter and John A. Terheum -	48 00	240 00	do	do	do
Benj. Van Orden	do	do	Nov. 15, 1812	Lawrence Van Orden	48 00	240 00	Mar. 28, 1821	Mar. 21, 1821	Mar. 21, 1825
BURLINGTON COUNTY.									
William Crosham	do	6th do	May 1813	Mary and Rebecca Crosham -	48 00	240 00	Mar. 5, 1819	Feb. 17, 1815	Feb. 17, 1820
CUMBERLAND COUNTY.									
Henry Brenesholtz	do	3d reg't art'y	Nov. 26, 1814	John, George, Maria, Henry and Sarah Ann Brenesholtz -	48 00	240 00	Aug. 11, 1817	do	do
Delany Sharp	do	do	August, 1813	Joseph, Isaac, Elizabeth, Richard and Anthony Sharp -	48 00	240 00	Ap'l 6, 1818	do	do
ESSEX COUNTY.									
Jonathan Huff	do	15th reg't inf.	May, 1813	Johnson and James Huff [Paid in New York.]	48 00	240 00	Ap'l 5, 1819	do	do
Samuel Jones	do	do	Mar. 15, 1814	Peter S., Sally C., Moses E., Elizabeth, Susan C., Mary C. Lydia B. and Jennet E. Jones	48 00	240 00	June 6, 1818	do	do
Moses Nichols	do	Light drag.	Dec. 5, 1813	Abraham, Jonathan and George Nichols	48 00	240 00	Mar. 5, 1819	do	do
William Robinson	do	19th reg't inf.	Oct. 26, 1814	John, Wesley, Caroline, James and Isaac Robinson	48 00	240 00	Oct. 77, 1817	do	do

Illustration 4 -- "Example of Section on Heirs. New Jersey Roll." 1835 Report, New Jersey Roll, Vol. II, p. 13.

The result is an interesting mix of military service. You can find the designations of regular army units, as well as state militias. Volunteer units are often listed by name, such as Armand's Corp, Pulaski's Legion, and Housegger's German Regiment. Naval service usually appears simply as U.S. Navy. Men who served as spies against hostile Native Americans were identified as Indian Spy.

Laws Under Which They Were Formerly Inscribed on the Pension Rolls and Remarks

While this column could identify a law under which the soldier applied for a pension, it is much more likely to contain other information. It is here that you may learn the veteran's date of death, the date he was dropped from the pension roll, the date he was suspended from the roll, or the date he was restored to the roll. (See Illustration 3 for an especially rich

number of examples of how useful this column can be.)

Joseph Essig example

The Report can often give you a tremendous snap shot view of your ancestor's service. Joseph Essig is a case in point. We learn that Essig had two aliases, Joseph Essick and Joseph Essix. He had been an Indian spy attached to the North Carolina militia. His pension was \$30 per month, the same as most privates in the militia.

SPECIAL SECTION ON HEIRS

Each state report includes a section on heirs of deceased veterans. Almost all of the veterans in this section were non-commissioned officers, privates, etc. These sections contain slightly different information than the main

report. Column headings are: Names of the Original Claimants; Rank; Description of Service; Time of Decease; Names of Heirs; Annual Allowance; Sums Received; When Placed on the Rolls; Commencement of Pension; Ending of Pension. (See Illustration 4 for an example of this section.)

WHAT ELSE YOU CAN LEARN FROM THE REPORT

Even if you have seen your ancestor's pension file, it may be worth your while to find him in the 1835 Report. As mentioned above, the information provides a good overview of your ancestor's service. There is also a great deal of information on other veterans who may have lived in the same community.

Because the men are listed by county, you can quickly see how many other veterans were living in the each county, their ages, and compare your ancestor's pension payment to that of his neighbors. In addition you may find that some of your ancestor's neighbors may not have served in a local unit or may not have even been native to the area. Looking at the report for Franklin County, Pennsylvania, for example, we learn that resident Richard Oldham received his pension for service in the Virginia Continental Line.

Sometimes reports contain men with similar surnames. These may have been relatives with contemporaneous service. One page in the report for Schenectady County in New York contains four men with the surname Schermerhorn, all of whom served as privates in the New York militia. They were 70 year old Garrett, 70 year old John I., 85 year old Lawrence, and 76 year old Bartholomew. Finding so much family information on a single page would be a great discovery.

TIPS ON NAVIGATING THE REPORT

Identifying the Right Volume

Despite its great potential to family historians, finding and using the Report requires

some planning. The Report consists of three volumes. The states and territories are not arranged alphabetically. Your first step is to find the volume containing the state or territory you want to examine. See Table I for a list of pension rolls in each volume.

Pagination

Each state report is numbered separately, beginning with page one and numbered sequentially until the final page. The special section on heirs is contained within the main report and at a different point in each state's or territory's rolls; consequently, that section can be difficult to find. Table II provides you with the information you will need to find your each state's report and the special sections on heirs for the states on which MAGS focuses and New York.

Locating a Copy

The Report from the Secretary of War, in Obedience to the Resolutions of the Senate of the 5th and 30th of June, 1834, and the 3rd of March 1835, In Relation to the Pension Establishment of the United States is a government publication, and available at depository libraries throughout the United States. You can locate the nearest depository library via the internet at www.gpoaccess.gov/libraries.

In addition to the Report's title you will need its Superintendent of Documents (SuDocs) number. The Superintendent of Documents assigns each government publication so it can file and retrieve reports quickly and easily. In this case the SuDoc number you need is I24.6 825. Remember, this is a three volume report so be sure to ask your librarian for the volume you want.

The Physical Condition

Keep the physical condition of the volumes in mind as you do your research. Each volume of the report is thick. As a result it is difficult to get good copies of each page. The slightly bowed portions of several of the

illustrations in this article demonstrate that point. You may want to take a digital camera with you to make copies.

In addition, the volumes are old. The pages may be darkened due to over 150 years of the acid in the paper stock eating at them. The pages may have been torn. The volume I used contained several pages that a librarian had taped to repair damage. It was difficult to read

some of the information under the yellowed tape. Regardless of its condition, the Report is a great source of information for people who had ancestors who served in the early wars of our nation's existence. Using them should be a satisfying experience. You can locate great information on your ancestor, his community, and indulge your enjoyment of old, bound volumes.

TABLE I	
LIST OF REPORTS IN EACH VOLUME OF THE 1835 REPORT	
VOLUME I	
Maine	Rhode Island
New Hampshire	Connecticut
Massachusetts	Vermont
VOLUME II	
New York	Delaware
New Jersey	Maryland
Pennsylvania	Virginia
VOLUME III	
North Carolina	Indiana
South Carolina	Illinois
Georgia	Missouri
Kentucky	Alabama
Tennessee	Territory of Michigan
Ohio	Territory of Arkansas
Louisiana	Territory of Florida
Mississippi	District of Columbia

TABLE II		
PAGE NUMBERS OF SPECIAL SECTIONS ON VETERANS' HEIRS		
STATE	TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES IN REPORT	PAGE NUMBERS OF SECTIONS ON HEIRS
Delaware	13 pages	Page 6
District of Columbia	16 pages	Pages 9-10
Maryland	54 pages	Pages 24-25
New Jersey	83 pages	Pages 13-16
New York	475 pages	Pages 95-109
North Carolina	127 pages	Pages 21-23
Pennsylvania	203 pages	Pages 53-64
Virginia	215 pages	Pages 30-34

BUCHBESPRECHUNGEN / *Book Reviews*

Dollarhide Numbering for Genealogists An Authorized Guide for the Serious User

By Brian R. Smith

Family Roots Publishing Co. LLC – 27 pages

Brian Smith’s treatise on William Dollarhide’s numbering system is a nice guide to using Mr. Dollarhide’s numbering system. Mr. Smith begins his treatise by explaining how the Dollarhide system is a combination of the Ahnentafel, which most, if not all genealogist’s working on their German ancestry are familiar with and the Henry numbering system. He explains both and how they were adapted for use by the Dollarhide system.

Smith explains how to setup the Dollarhide system and provides the symbols used in the process. He also details the benefits

and limitations of numbering systems and the benefits outweigh the limitations by almost two to one.

Provided in the treatise are two appendixes and an extensive bibliography of books, articles and websites relating to the Dollarhide and other numbering systems. The *Dollarhide Numbering for Genealogists* is a great complement to your genealogical bookshelf. Lastly, Mr. Smith’s treatise is endorsed by William Dollarhide himself, which means this publication should not be taken lightly.

Dollarhide Numbering for Genealogists is available from Family Roots Publishing Co., LLC – PO Box 830 – Bountiful, UT 84011 – www.familyrootspublishing.com Cover price is \$15.95.

Reviewed by Diane Kuster

MAGS Welcomes New Members

A maximum of four surnames being researched by each new member appears *in bold parentheses and italics* following the new member's name. Space does not permit more than four surnames or most spelling variations. MAGS encourages all members to submit free queries to the queries editor regarding specific ancestors.

Klaus Alt of Ruckersville, VA
(*No Names*)

Jacob Altvater of New Windsor, MD
(*Altvater, Fox, Myers*)

Warren Bittner of Centerville, UT
(*No Names*)

Karen Good Cooper of Woodstock, VA
(*No Names*)

Gladys Donson of Bryan, OH
(*No Names*)

John H. Foertschbeck of Woodbine, MD
(*Foertschbeck, Betch, Irauth/Erauth, Sobus*)

Gene & Alberta Goshorn of Mount Union, PA
(*Schwartzwelder/Swartswelter, Haught, Goosehorn/Goshorn*)

Kristine Jankovits of Fredericksburg, VA
(*Beck, Kroener, Meirer, Schwab*)

Robert Charles Kramp of Monroe, NC
(*Austel, Gailliet, Kramp, Streich*)

Linda Lawson of Raleigh, NC
(*Mittelstadter, Fuhrman, Juengst, Stager*)

Sharon Presken of Theodore, AL
(*Hiester, Heister, Moyer, Reiser/Reeser*)

Christine Reynolds of Oakton, VA
(*Nehring, Bloxham, Nietsche, Zshchiesche*)

Richard Schrader of Westfield, NJ
(*Schrader, Eger, Preissler*)

Sarah Jane Taylor of Westminster, MD
(*Sauter, Heiler, Zimmerman, Zachmann*)

Margaret Weiler of Bradford, NH
(*Frank, Weiler, Freyhofer, Hillibush*)

Nancy L. Whalen of Audubon, NJ
(*Woerner, Leopold, Seiferd, Groff*)

David Whitman of Fairfax, VA
(*Whittmann, Kuntz, Feldfänger, Schott*)

Ben R. Williams of Silver Spring, MD
(*Bierbauer, Rickeman, Fauerbach, Rückemann*)

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS SPRING MEETING 2012

The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy by Kimberly Powell – **winner** – Paul Scheerer

The Handy Book for Genealogists – **winner** – Bob Greiner

German-English Genealogical Dictionary by Ernest Thode – **winner** – Bill Kaifer

The Guide to FamilySearch Online by James L. Tanner – **winner** – Allie Scharf

Genealogical Research in Nebraska by Ruby Coleman – **winner** – Joel David

Dollarhide Numbering for Genealogists An Authorized Guide for the Serious user by Brian R. Smith – **winner** – Mary Dulany

Map Guide to German Parish Registers Kingdom of Prussia – Province of Westphalia I by Kevan M. Hansen – **winner** – Sandra DeWine

Wooden Easter Bunny and Crate of Eggs made in Germany – **winner** – David Whitman

\$25 Gift Certificate – **winner** – Donald Leyh

Understanding and Using Baptismal Records by John Humphrey – **winner** – winner Carol Bentley

Abstracts of Lancaster County Pennsylvania Wills 1786-1820 – **winner** – winner Sylvia Fenzel

Chocolate Bar – **four winners** – Pat Fritz, Virginia Nuta, Margie Greiner, Jan Kaifer

Bottle of Gluhwein – **winner** – Susan Scheerer

SUCHANZEIGEN / *Queries*

Please mention at least one time, one place, one German surname with known variants. Limit each query to one family. Use no more than fifty (50) words, not counting your name and address. There is no charge for members of MAGS. Non-members please include \$1 (check payable to Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society) per query with your submission.

More than one query may be sent at a time, but each should be clearly written or typed on a separate sheet of 8 1/2 by 11 inch clean, white paper. E-Mail is acceptable. Please indicate desired priority for printing. MAGS reserves the right to edit. Neither MAGS nor *Der Kurier* assumes any responsibility for accuracy

Send your Queries to Edythe H. Millar, Queries Editor, MAGS, 7102 Cedon Road, Woodford, VA 22580 or e-mail: ehoffmillar@netscape.net (Please write 'MAGS Query' in subject line)

BAHN WITTSTOCK CANNON KLUENNER ECKHARDT

#30-2 Seek pl/b Edward BAHN (Oct 1857-Jul 1924) fr West Prussia & w Emilie WHITTSTOCK (Sept 1859-Oct 1935). Emig 1883, liv Brooklyn, NY. Ch: Frieda CANNON, Rose KLUENNER, Anna ECKHARDT, Frederick BAHN.

**Louise Eckhardt 7722 Rachael Whitney Lane
Alexandria, VA 22315 Ph: 703 313-8089 email
louisenyc@verizon.net**

KAHN/KANN BERMEL

#30-3 Seek info Wilhelmina KAHN/KANN. B 24 June 1838 nr Kreuznach, Rhineland/Pfalz. M Karl (Charles) BERMEL ca 1853 in NYC & liv Brooklyn. D Sept 1897. Son Joseph BERMEL borough president of Queens. **Louise Eckhardt (contact info above)**

GRUNHUT/GREENHOOD/GREENHUT JACOB ECKHARDT LEHMANN

30-4 Seek pl/b Bernard GREENHOOD (1820-1870) Imig fr Bohemia 1840's. Owned leather business in Manhattan, NYC. M Jeanette (Shanette) LEHMANN (1822-1872) fr Bavaria. Ch: Julius, Moses, Simon, Pauline JACOB, Rachel ECKHARDT, Sarah. **Louise Eckhardt (contact info above)**

WEISS ECKHARDT SEEBER SCHULTZ BUSCHE

#30-5 Seek info Conrad ECKHARDT & w Anna Mary Rosine WEISS. M ca 1855, liv Manhattan, NYC. Ch: Anna BUSCHE, John Henry ECKHARDT, Mary SEEBER SCHULTZ, George ECKHARDT.

Louise Eckhardt (contact info above)

DER KALENDER / *The Calendar*

2012

August 29-Sept. 1. Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, Birmingham, AL. Theme: "Indians, Squatters, Settlers and Soldiers in the 'Old Southwest'." Includes Wednesday "Focus on Societies" sessions. Co-sponsored by the Alabama Genealogical Society. More info: FGS, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940,

phone 1-888-FGS-1500, website URL: www.fgs.org/2012conference.

October 13. MAGS Fall Meeting, Best Western Hotel, Westminster, MD. Featured speakers include Ann Morrison, John T. Humphrey and Susannah Brooks. One slot will be a question and answer session for your thorniest problems. More info: www.magsgen.com.

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